

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 AF-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NASA-04 NSC-10 RSC-01 SCI-06 EB-11 PA-04 PRS-01 NEA-10

SS-20 SPC-03 /156 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:DPASSAGE;OP-941:LCDR KERNS:GJG

APPROVED BY PM/ISO:JDSTODDART

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ASD/TEL - MR. ELLIS

OSD/ISA/FMRA - MR. LONG

EUR/NE - MR. FLOYD

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O P 052348Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

CNO

CINCPAC

CINC PACREP CANBERRA

NAVCOMMSTA HE HOLT

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCPACFLT

NAVCOMMSTA DIEGO GARCIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 238576

CINCPAC AND CINCUSNAVEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR/AS/IO

SUBJECT: SATELLITE TERMINAL FOR DIEGO GARCIA

REF: A. CANBERRA 6372 (NOTAL)

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B. STATE 230674 (NOTAL)

C. CANBERRA 6430 (NOTAL)

D. CANBERRA 6607 (NOTAL)

1. VERY MUCH REGRET THAT DELAY IN RESPONDING TO REFTEL C MAY RESULT IN SPECULATIVE NEWS STORY AS NOTED IN REFTEL D. REQUEST EFFORT BE MADE, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE AT THIS LATE DATE, TO EMPHASIZE TECHNICAL AND PRE-PLANNED NATURE OF THE TRANSPORTING OF THE TERMINAL, WHILE DOWN-PLAYING ANY POLITICAL FACTORS AND "CHANGES" IN NORTH WEST CAPE OPERATIONS.

2. THE FOLLOWING ANSWERS RESPOND TO QUERIES IN REFTEL C:

A. YES. DESTINATION OF TERMINAL HAS BEEN DECLASSIFIED.

B. THE TERMINAL WAS AIRLIFTED TO DIEGO GARCIA ON 1 DECEMBER. A PORTION OF THE ANCILLARY EQUIPMENTS COULD NOT BE AIRLIFTED DUE TO LIMITED CAPACITY OF AIRCRAFT. THESE REMAINING EQUIPMENTS ARE BEING SEALIFTED TO ARRIVE AT DIEGO GARCIA ABOUT 7 DECEMBER.

C. THE DECISION TO PROVIDE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS ACCESS TO DIEGO GARCIA HAS LONG BEEN CONTEMPLATED, AND, ALTHOUGH THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION PROMPTED ACCELERATION OF IMPLEMENTATION, THE MOVEMENT OF THIS TERMINAL IS IN CONSONANCE WITH PREVIOUS PLANNING FOR UTILIZATION OF TRANSPORTABLE SATELLITE TERMINALS.

D. THE SATELLITE TERMINAL WAS MOVED TO ENHANCE OUR ABILITIES FOR RAPID COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN DIEGO GARCIA AND THE REMAINDER OF THE US DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM.

E. THE PURPOSE OF THIS, AS ANY OTHER SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, IS TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY COMMUNICATIONS LINKS BETWEEN DESIGNATED POINTS--IN THIS CASE BETWEEN DIEGO GARCIA AND US MILITARY COMMAND CENTERS ELSEWHERE.

3. WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR THE TEXTS OF ANY RELEASES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DRAWN FROM THE ABOVE. KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, MILITARY BASES, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS, COMMUNICATION LINES, ELECTRIC EQUIPMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: 941:LCDR KERNS:GJG
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: MARR, AS, IO
To: CANBERRA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005